THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXXII NUMBER 01

February 2025

EBARC Meetings

Next meeting: February 14, 2025

Unitarian Universalist Church Of Berkeley

Safir Room
1 Lawson Rd., Kensington, CA

Check your email for Zoom link.

The Executive Committee is currently meeting via Zoom on the Tuesday before the second Friday General Meeting.

Welcome EBARC Members to the second edition of the *Blown Fuse* for 2025.

Please plan to join us at the meeting on Feb 14, 2025 in-person or on the Zoom Link.

Program: Bill Ruck, Maritime Radio Historical Society & Maritime Coastal Radio Station, KPH

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is a service provided as part of membership. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Audrey Nieman W6BBQ

Deadline for March Issue is Feb. 24, 2025.

Blown Fuse Back Issues

The Internet Archive, where the digital versions of the Club newsletters are located was hacked, and taken down briefly this month. The area where EBARC newsletters (some predating the name "Blown Fuse") are stored did go down with the hack. The servers have been restored and our newsletters are accessible with the URL: https://archive.org/details/east-bay-arc

ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION
CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARD
1989
PRESENTED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE MEMBERS, COMMUNITY AND AMATEUR RADIO.
EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Large Club Category
ROD STAFFORD KB6ZV
Director, Pacific Division

President's Message

I hope you all had a fantastic Winter Field Day! I spent the 25th making approximately 25 QRP FT8 QSOs as W6BB 1I EB.

Lately, I've been building a WEB-888 SDR. I've been waiting on parts, an antenna switch & 2-way splitter to arrive from Spain. For those unfamiliar, the WEB-888 software defined radio is similar to the KIWI SDRs used at KPH (LINK HERE) the device provides an OpenWebRX, delivers access to a wide chunk of baseband RF 63MHz all at once! and a variety of demodulation types through its web page.
I'm excited about our upcoming topics for February, March, and April!! In February, we'll be joined by Bill Ruck from the Maritime Radio Historical Society and Maritime Coastal Radio Station KPH. In many respects the story of Maritime Coastal Station KPH is also the story of the development of radio communications. As the wireless technology progressed from spark transmitters and crystal detectors to today's handheld communication devices. KPH had to change to keep up with the advances of technology. Bill has extended an offer for a visit later this year, the date is still TBD. Our March meeting is on a new night, March 21st (the 3rd Friday). The March program will be an Emergency Communications forum with panelists John Cornell and Daniel Goldstein KJ6KEU. This panel will be the start of a few winlink related topics. In April Howdy will demonstrate in-person on how to send forms through an RF gateway.

Please take the survey **(LINK HERE)**

Some pictures from the EBARC archives are included to the left and on page 5.

Minutes of the January Meeting

EBARC HYBRID GENERAL MEETING JANUARY 10, 2025

The EBARC General Meeting was held on Friday, January 10, 2025 as a hybrid meeting. The in-person meeting occurred at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkely (UUCB) at 1 Lawson Road, Kensington CA 94794-1015. The on-line meeting was held via the Zoom Internet Conferencing application. There were 8 people in person and 8 on Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 by President Mathison Ott KJ6DZB. Also present were Vice President Howdy Goudey KE6BEE, Treasurer Audrey Nieman W6BBQ, Second Vice President Karen Fenton KK6ZPM, members Jay Fenton KJ6WSS, Todd Teachout W8BIK, Robin Mitchell KN6CRP and guest Wes Burning N3URL. On Zoom were Secretary Jan Kuhl AC5RB and members Don Simon NI6A, DJ Djovida KJ6DJ, Tim Eisler KO6EMS, Ross Talarico W6OGX, Alvin Todd KK6UQX, Robin Spalding N6RL and Lorraine Schnurr KN6CRT.

MINUTES is moved by Karen and seconded by DJ to approve the December minutes as posted in the Blown Fuse

MOTION CARRIED

President Mathison welcomed the guest Wes Burning. He is also working on the survey for everyone to fill out, he will talk about it later. There is lots of information on the AARL website, but there was a cyber-attack a while ago on their website and the system was down. It is functional but not fully functional yet, they are working on it.

TREASURER REPORT- The December treasurer report is in the Decembers Blown Fuse. It will be filed. Audrey said dues are due and so far, 49 of the current 61 members from 2024 have paid for 2025. She sent out the billing along with the voting ballots last month with self-addressed stamped envelopes. She will send out reminders again later. Members can use the Pay Pal link or mail to the P.O. Box. Regular membership is $35, and Family membership is $45. The Membership deadline is February 15, 2025 and she will make out a new roster at that time. There were 38 ballots that were returned to be tallied.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT- Howdy said there are several topics that have been suggested as well as planning for Winter Field Day and Summer Field Day. The survey answers can be helpful in the club planning. He is open to suggestions of topics and presenters. It could also be a flash topic to be only 10-15 minutes long. He would like to have a variety of presentations.

FLASH BACKS - Karen said she really enjoyed the flashbacks that Todd had put into the Blown Fuse. It was interesting to see the events of 25 and 50 years ago of our Club. Mathison said he would be glad to continue that. There are archives that are available to research.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT- Karen is going to be focusing on encouraging current and new members for hands on activities.

President Mathison asked to move our general meetings to the third Fridays as the Second Fridays could interfere with his work and personal commitments. The new schedule will start in March, 2025.

DISCUSSIONS

-STORAGE AND EQUIPMENT- The Board has agreed to prepare a final determination of items stored by the club, sorting them into functional equipment with resale value, items with little or no resale value to be given to club members, and remaining items to be donated. The club also discussed the cost of storing the equipment, which is $600.00 a year. The Board has decided to liquidate everything to avoid storage costs and potentially use member equipment for field days. The club also discussed the possibility of establishing a radio station, but no decision was made. The next swap meet is in the South Bay in March. Mathison, Don and Howdy will check out the storage area. Discussion tabled.

VENUE AND VE SESSIONS-Albert Gota, N6SX, has offered to organize up to four quarterly VE sessions, which would be a significant addition to the current set up. He is exploring the possibility of hosting these sessions at a different location in the East Bay area. There was discussion that they might be better suited for weekend days rather than evenings. There was also discussion about getting the VE License through the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator program to be certified.

PARLIMENTARIAN- Mathison mentioned a need for a Parliamentarian who could oversee the club's bylaws and ensure proper meeting procedures.

PORTABLE ANTENNA AND WINTER FIELD DAY- There was discussion about the possibility of using a

portable, crank-up antenna for operations. There was an offer to help K)6EMS build a mounting bracket for the antenna that could be used both indoors and outdoors. Winter Field day is January 25-26. Mathison will check on the possibility of opening the UC Berkeley Station at Richmond Field Station for the event to run from 8-2 each day; with one or two HF stations each day.
SUMMER FIELD DAY- There was discussion about potential locations for a field day event. Members considered the Albany Bulb, Cesar Chavez Park, Kensington Park, Upper Canyon Trail, UUCB Church area, Rosie the Riveter Park, Knox-Miller Park. Some of these locations may have restrictions or require permits. There is the importance of socializing during the event, and the need for a balance between allowing operators to work and engaging attendees. In the recent past EBARC has joined with Karo-Echo with their field day.
SURVEY- Mathison asked everyone to please fill out the online survey to help the Board and membership to keep up with wishes, needs, and interests of the members.

Meeting adjourned 9:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Jan Kuhl, Secretary

HELMS MIDDLE SCHOOL
COUGAR PRIDE
WCC JUNIOR
HAM PAL CLUB
OPEN HOUSE ON FEB. 12!
Come help us introduce ham radio to the next generation! We'll be discussing:
• Morse code
• NATO Alphabet
• EmComm
• Simplex nets
• Radiograms
• and more!
EVERY SECOND WEDNESDAY, 3:30-4:30
HELMS MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY
2500 RD. 20, SAN PABLO
Contact john.evans@wccusd.net for more details or to sign up!
GA-Ver. #2

Contact Karen Fenton, KK6ZPM for more information:
karenleongfenton@gmail.com
510-701-7443

West Contra Costa Junior Ham Pal Club

Remember how your parent or another adult first got you interested in the ham hobby? On February 12, 3:30 – 4:30 PM at Helms Middle School in San Pablo, Librarian John Evans KO6FCY will host an Open House to entice Helms students to join a new ham pal club. Jay Fenton KJ6WSS, Karen Fenton KK6ZPM, Don Simon NI6A, and Fran Kuyper KJ6IUV will assist Mr. Evans to demonstrate tools and skills.
Based upon a successful launch at Helms, the plan is to create other afterschool clubs that can communicate as ham pals by way of the WA6KQB repeaters. Each school club needs a site teacher partnering with a ham sponsor. Are you interested in helping recruit or volunteer? Can you donate FRS radios for training practice? Contact karenleongfenton@gmail.com

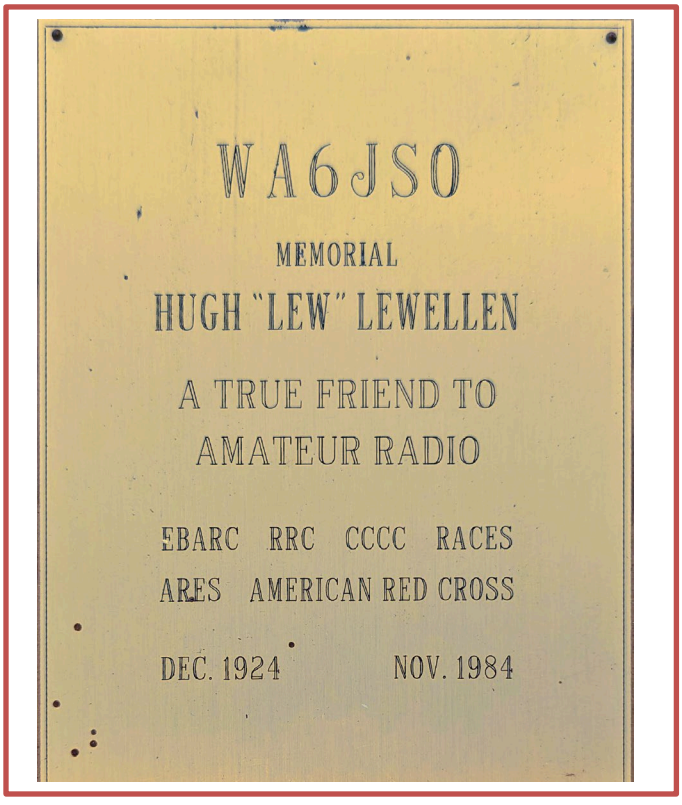
Klf. 20250127

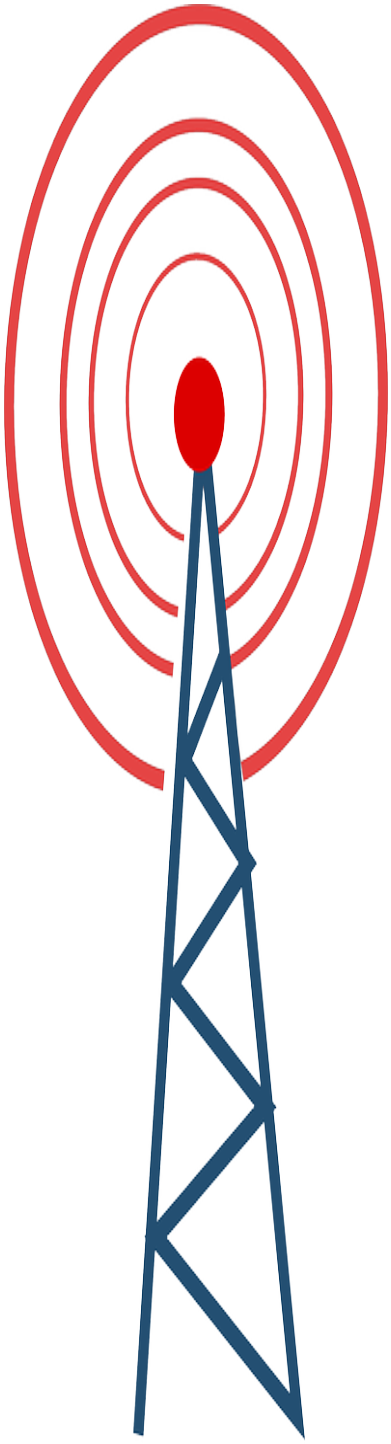
Treasurer's Report
As of 1/28/2025

Balance Forward	**$13,982.02**
Income:	
PayPal Transfer	**111.56**
PayPal Transfer	**78.91**
PayPal Transfer	**25.03**
Interest	**.10**
Disbursements	
Sec of State Filing	**5.00**
New Balance	**$14192.62**

Now accepting dues for 2025
Regular Member $35.00
Family Membership $45.00
PayPal to treasurer@ebarc.org
Or mail to:
EBARC
P.O. Box 1393
El Cerrito, CA 94530

An item from the EBARC Archives….





25 Years Ago: Feb 2000
General Upgrade Class Henry Primbsch, KK6PH, Education Chair

EBARC is sponsoring a "Technician to General' upgrade class, to be held in Richmond starting early in February. It will end in April, just before a separate VE exam scheduled (in Oakland) for the evening of April 3° or 10". The class will probably be held on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., probably at the Adams Middle School.

On April 15uh the Morse code requirement for the General license drops to 5 words per minute, so a Tech+ can become a General by passing the General written exam before April 15" and presenting the CSCE at a subsequent VE test session after the 15"". No-code Techs who pass the General written exam will have a year from the test date to pass the additional 5 word per minute Morse code test.

50 Years Ago: Feb 1975

A continuing job for the officers is to arrange for programs for the Friday night meetings. The assistance of members is needed here as well. If you have suggestions of arrangements which you could make please let us have them. Individual members might volunteer to present discussions of recent articles from QST. A member might bring to a meeting an interesting piece of equipment which he haa,to demonstrate it or to describe it. Sweh things might not need to be the whole of a meeting program; they could be a share of a program.

One other job that needs to be filled by a member is that of purchasing the items which we distribute as prizes at the meetings.

Will someone volunteer to visit a radio store and pick up some interesting things before each meeting?

Bob Pigford, K6QS

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone with an amateur radio license. Annual dues are $35 for individual membership, $45 for family membership, and $10 for students K-12. For information, send email to ebham.office@gmail.com, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page *www.ebarc.org*, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus, or on Facebook's "East Bay Amateur Radio Club."

2025 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB, President	510-701-0234
Jan Kuhl, AC5RB, Secretary.....	510-846-3829
Howdy Goudey, KE6BEE, 1st VP / Program Chair	510-684-9097
Karen Fenton, KK6ZPM, 2nd VP/ Membership	510-701-7443
Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treasurer / Finance Chair	510-682-7938

2025 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

Blown Fuse Editor: Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ 510-682-7938
W6CUS Trustee Chris Harwood 510-332-7383
Webmasters: Chris & Isaac Harwood 510-332-7383

Upcoming Activities & Events

Event	Time & Days	INFO
General Meeting	February 14th	
Tech License Class	Feb 1st	(INFO)
VE @ UUCB by Albert N6SX	March 8th	
General Meeting	March 21th	
2025 Coastal Region Radio Exercise	May 1st	
General Meeting	May 16th	
ARRL Digital Contest	Jun 7-8th	(INFO) (LOG)
General Meeting	June 20th	
ARRL Field Day June	June 27*-28-29	
General Meeting	July 18th	
General Meeting	August 15th	
Pacificon 2025	Fri Oct 10 -12	(MORE INFO)
California QSO Party	Oct4 1600- Oct5 2200 UTC	(RULES)
General Meeting	November 21th	
ARRL CW Sweepstakes	11/2 - 11/4	(INFO)
General Meeting	December 19th	
Holiday Party	TBD	

More Contest info at https://www.contestcalendar.com
And at https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

Bay Area & U.S. Amateur Radio Nets:

Net	Days	Time PST	Repeater	INFO
Over the Hill Commuter CCCC	Mon-Fri	7:10pm	WA6KQB (system)	RX: 145.110MHz TX:-600kHz CTCSS: 82.5Hz RX:444.275MHz TX:+5MHz CTCSS:82.5Hz RX:224.3MHz TX:+4MHz CTCSS:82.5Hz EchoLink: 184423 / AllStar: 529990 /
Insomniac Net WIN SYSTEM on LPRC	Mon-Sun	10pm	WR6ABD	RX:442.900 TX:+5MHz CTCSS:162.2
W1AW CW Practice (LINK)				1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0775, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555 MHz, EchoLink: 501433
W1AW Digital Bulletins (LINK)				3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095, 50.350, 147.555 MHz.
W1AW Voice Bulletins (LINK)				1.855, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 18.16, 21.39, 28.59, 50.350, 147.555 MHz.
MidCars (LINK) eastern USA	Mon-Sun	5:30-11AM		7.258 LSB
NorCAL DMR Net TG31068	Mon	7:30pm	W6PW	UHF RX:444.225MHz TX:+5MHz CC1 WA6BAY, W6PW, K6LNK, N6AMG, WB6ECE, W6CX
NorCAL DMR Net TG31068	Mon	7:30pm	W6CX-DV	W6CX-DV RX:145.000 TX:+2.5MHz CC:1 (MORE INFO)
CCCC 220 Net	Tues	7:30pm		RX:224.3MHz TX:+4MHz CTCSS:82.5Hz
MeshPhone Conference Call N2NM	Mon	7:30pm	BAM PBX	Mesh phone 78- 973-2193
Loma Pioneer Radio Club LPRC	Tues	8pm	WR6ABD	RX:146.640MHz TX:-600kHz CTCSS:162.2kHz
ORCA Noon time Net	Tues	12noon	WB6NDJ	RX:146.880MHz TX:-600kHz CTCSS:77kHz RX:442.4MHz TX:+5MHz CTCSS:77kHz EchoLink: 270352 / AllStar: 47154 / IRLP: 3115
Marin County RACES HF NVIS NET	Tues	6pm		3.895, 5.405 (ch5) USB / 7.228 LSB / 40m (JS8)
UC Berkeley ARC W6BB	Wed	7:30PM	WA6ZTY	RX:442.275MHz TX:+5MHz CTCSS:103.5Hz (Echo Link KJ6DZB-L) (Allstar NODE 59521)
UC Berkeley ARC W6BB (Echo Link)	Wed	7:30PM	KJ6DZB-L	KJ6DZB-L
San BrunoARC	Wed	8:30pm	simplex	7.27mhz & 46.595MHz FM
WC EMCOMM Net	Thu	1845	WA6KQB	WA6KQB (system)
Mt Diablo MDARC	Thu	7:30pm	W6CX	RX:147.060MHz TX:+600kHz CTCSS:100Hz
CCCC Evening Net	Thu	1930	WA6KQB	WA6KQB (system)
Co Co County HF EmComm Net	Thu	6pm		7.213MHz (+/- QRM) LSB
Co Co County HF EmComm Net	Thu	6:15pm		5.346.5MHz USB (ch. 2) or 5.357Mhz (Ch. 3)
Co Co County HF EmComm Net	Thu	6:30pm		3.893MHz (+/- QRM) Alternative 3.888MHz LSB
KARO/ECHO EMCOMM NET	Thu	7pm		Simplex 146.415MHz
NALCO ARES Net	Thu	7:15pm	N6BRK	RX:147.255MHz TX:+600kHz CTCSS:123kHz RX:440.900MHz TX:+5 TX:+5MHz CTCSS:131.8.5KHz
Oakland RCA Net	Thu	7:30pm	WB6NDJ	WB6NDJ (system)
W6CX-ATV Net	Thu	8pm	W6CX-ATV	1244.50MHz DVB-S2 (MORE INFO)
Bay Area EMCOMM Net	Sat	9:00am	WA6KQB	WA6KQB (system)
San Francisco ARC W6PW HF net	Sat	9am	simplex	14.328MHz USB
CCCC WC Net	Sat	9:15am	WA6KQB	WA6KQB (system)
Bay Area Comm Net	Sat	9:30am	WA6KQB	WA6KQB (system)
Cert FL Digi Net	Sat	10am	WA6KQB	WA6KQB (system)
The Bay Area NVIS Net	Sat	8am		3.890MHz LSB
Slow Scan TV SSTV (MORE INFO)				145.500 MHz, 145.600MHz, 144.550MHz, 145.800MHz

U.S. Packet	27/7	27/7	wide1-2	1200bps 144.390MHz
Satellite Packet	Status	Status	NA1ISS	1200bps 145.825MHz
NA1ISS Cross-Band Repeater	Status	Status		Up: 145.990MHz CTCSS:67Hz Dow: 437.800MHz

High Speed Microwave Data Network	INFO
Bay Area Mesh (AREDN)	More INFO /Bay Area Node Map
WINLINK NODES	(MORE INFO)
WA6KQB-10	441.500MHz 1200bps & VARA FM wide
KC6SSM-10	145.630MHz
W6ECK-10	441.500MHz packet (local mailbox W6ECK-1)
W6ECK-10	145.630 VARA (local mailbox W6ECK-1)
KI6DOG-10	144.910 packet (Oakland)
K2YE-10	144.910 packet (Oakland)
K6VOM-11	145.630 packet or VARA (San Leandro)

Note: Please send suggestions or modifications to KJ6DZB

DX peditions:

Nigeria, January 2025, 5N9DTG Team will be active at Abuja, Nigeria. The team is comprised of Members of the Rebel DX Group.
They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, FT8 and possible SSB.
QSL via ClubLog OQRS.

Benin, Jan 10-April 2, 2025, Gerard, F5RAV will be active as TY5.
He will operate on 80 - 10m, CW, FT8.
QSL via F5RAV.

More DX Peditions info at https://dxnews.com/dxpeditions/